

lying on said creek, swamp or branch petitioned to be drained, the county commissioners shall within ten days after the filing of such petition order the county surveyor to summon three disinterested freeholders, good and lawful men of intelligence and discretion, who shall constitute a board, and the county surveyor shall be the chairman of said board; and the chairman shall give all persons who may be interested in having said creek, swamp or branch drained three days' notice of the time and place of the meeting of the board: *Provided*, that the petitioners shall deposit with the county treasurer the sum of twenty-five dollars for the payment of current expenses not otherwise provided for in this act.

Chairman.

Notice of meeting.

Proviso.

SEC. 2. The board provided for in section one of this act shall meet at the call of the chairman and shall proceed to inspect and examine the lands as described in the petition to be drained, and the board shall have power to summon witnesses, administer oaths and take testimony, and if the board decides that the lands specified in the petition shall be drained, either on the plea of health or for the benefit of the farms lying on or contiguous to said water course, then the board shall select a place at which the ditch shall be begun. They shall also decide the depth and width of the ditch to be dug, and shall proceed to survey, locate, lay off and mark the course of the ditch, and the board shall assign to the land owners the amount of labor to be performed and the amount of money to be paid for the purpose of defraying the necessary expenses by each land owner in proportion to the amount of lands drained or *pro rata* benefits received by the drainage of such lands, and the said board shall specify the time in which the work so assigned shall be completed: *Provided*, no one shall be required to commence on the work assigned to him until the person next below him shall have completed his work in accordance with the specification of the board.

Duties of board.

Assignment of labor, &c.

Proviso.

SEC. 3. The board shall make a written report to

Board to make report.